Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was there not an application for furlough after this?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice on that point as well.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know whether a communication was sent by a messenger that he should send in his application while the Diwan was camping at Irinjalakkuda?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This too comes under the same thing, matters of a confidential nature.

Special Officer for Harbour and Railways.

232. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) what the pay per mensem of Mr. P. Damodara Menon was while he was Special Officer ;

(2) what the amount he drew as T. A. during the period ;

(3) what were his duties as Special Officer ;

(4) who was looking to these duties before him;

(5) who is attending to them after his release;

(6) what urgent works did he attend to during the period?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.— (1) He was given a special deputation allowance of Rs. 300 per mensem in addition to his substantive pay of Rs. 550 per mensem.

(2) Rupees 1,058-14-0.

(3) He was attending to Harbour, Railways and allied matters.

(4) Before this the Diwan Peishkar and the Chief Engineer were attending to these duties.

(5) The officers mentioned in (4) above.

(6) He was attending to the questions of:—

1. the conversion of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway into broad gauge;

2. the Trichur-Kollengode Railway line;

3. the alignment of the Palghat-Pollachi Railway so as to serve the needs of Tattamangalam and Chittur;

4. the verification of the reclamations made near Venduruthi;

5. the allocation of sites near the Venduruthi reclaimed area, and

6. the Cochin Port limits.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Were there any special reasons for this appointment?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What are they?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—To attend to the duties connected with the limits and jurisdiction of the Port, starting of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the Palghat to Pollachi Railway, raising of the loan and kindred matters.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—(6). At what stage were these works when he was appointed?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is very difficult to say at which particular stage this question was.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Were they under consideration?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. They were under consideration.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—How were the needs of Chittur and Tattamangalam served?

President.—I think t was shifted a little nearer to Tattamangalam.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No, not an inch.

President.—Our endeavours became fruitless.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It was too late.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Were all questions contained in this, that is, part (6), completely solved?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Do you mean completed by Mr. Damodara Menon? No.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What was the necessity for the appointment? How did his period synchronise with,.....

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There were certain difficult stages at which it was thought necessary to appoint a Special Officer. When these stages were got over, the Special Officer's post was discontinued.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—On what consideration was the deputation allowance fixed?

President.—No particular basis. He was given Rs. 300 as a lump sum, that is all. No principle or standard was adopted in fixing the amount.

233. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) what were the reasons for creating the post of the Special Officer for Harbour and Railways;

(2) who was appointed to that;

(3) why was that post abolished on the retirement of Mr. P. Damodara Menon?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) A full-timed officer was considered necessary to deal with the important questions arising in connection with the Harbour and Railways.

(2) M. R. Ry., P. Damodara Menon Avl., Devaswam Commissioner.

(3) The necessity for a full-timed officer ceased.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly